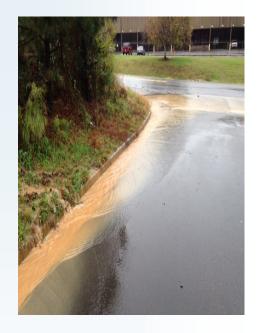
### **Facts about Sediment**

- The Environmental
   Protection Agency lists
   sediment as the most
   common pollutant in rivers,
   streams, lakes and
   reservoirs.
- While natural erosion
   produces nearly 30 percent
   of the total sediment in the
   United States, accelerated
   erosion from human land
   disturbing activities
   accounts for the remaining
   70 percent.
- The most concentrated sediment releases come from construction activities, even relatively minor homeprojects.



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## **Rockdale County Erosion Control**





## Introduction

The Erosion and Sediment Control
Program was set up to improve and
Protect Georgia's urban soil and water
resources by reducing the amount of
erosion from urban development
sites. The program does this through
the use of best management practices
(BMP's) as called for in the soil and
water conservation districts law and
delivered through soil and water
conservation districts. The program
educates local government and
professionals to meet Georgia's
standards for land disturbing
activities.

Anyone involved in land development, design, review, permitting, construction, monitoring, inspection, or any land disturbing activity in Georgia must meet education requirements and be certified by the GSWCC program developed in consultation with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and the Stakeholder Advisory Board.. If your E&SC plan does not show a vegetative buffer around a site but there is an area on the perimeter that does not require clearing, then save the existing vegetation! A good vegetative buffer 25'-35' can trap 85-95% of the sediment in runoff water.

If a site is properly engineered, cut and fill slopes can be mulched or vegetated daily. Mulch does not require water or fertilizer or lime. A good application of mulch can reduce soil loss by up to 98%.

Use conventional planting methods, when feasible sodding may initially be more expensive ... but how much more? If a site has to be re-planted several times, then It just may be cheaper to sod rather than seed bare slopes. Even if the sod should die, most sodded areas will protect bare areas from erosion during the duration of the land-disturbing activity.

# What is Sediment pollution?

Sediment is the loose sand, clay, silt and other soil particles that clouds water and settling to the bottom of our watersheds.

Sediment comes from soil erosion or from the decomposition of plants and animals.

Wind, water, and ice help carry these particles to creeks, streams, rivers, lakes and oceans.



